

## QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS COMMON INTONATION PATTERNS

There are four common intonation patterns for sentences in English:

**yes/no** questions tend to have rising intonation/pitch at the end.

Is it time to go?

Do you have to meet with me?

Are you going to work today?

**wh** and **how** questions tend to have falling intonation/pitch at the end.

When are you going?

What is your name?

How are you today?

**Statements** have falling intonation/pitch on the last syllable of the sentence.

I have a toothache.

Please pick up some milk.

He will be here tomorrow.

When items are **listed** or said in a **series**, the first items have rising intonation and the last one has falling intonation.

Do you want to have hamburgers, chicken, steak or pasta for dinner?

✳ Try using the social language activities at the end of this section to practice using rising and falling intonation patterns.